

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, and 9-13 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 5 and 9-13 are rejected and claims 6 and 7 are withdrawn from consideration.

Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by way of the present amendments. For instance, the recitation of "recombinant wild-type SEB" has been replaced with "recombinant natural type SEB" in claim 1. Also, the language "a position corresponding to" has been removed from each of claims 1, 3, 5 and 9. Language relating to "derivatives" of certain amino acids has been removed from claims 1, 5 and 9. At several locations, for instance, in claims 1, 3, 5 and 9, the word "the" has been inserted prior to "natural type SEB." The dependency of claim 13 has been modified to avoid improper dependency upon a cancelled claim. Lastly, a period has been added to the end of claim 1. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants further submit that no new issues have been raised by way of the present amendment. For instance, Applicants have simply amended the claims to adopt language suggested by the Examiner. This serves to reduce the number of issues, not raise issues that would require additional search and/or consideration.

In the event the present submission does not place the application into condition for allowance, entry thereof is requested as placing the application into better form for appeal.

In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully

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enter.
02/14/2005